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NO. 5507 P. 9

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REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Allowed Claims

In paragraph 4 of the Action, claims 13, 19-21, 23-24, 26, 31-32 and 34-55 stand allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for identifying claims that are allowable.

Allowable Claims

In paragraph 5, claims 29-30 are indicated to be allowable, but dependent upon a rejected claim. Applicants thank the Examiner for identifying claims that are allowable.

Claims 29 and 30 have been rewritten in independent form. Entry of the amendments and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

35 USC 103(a) Rejection

In paragraph 2, claims 1, 4, 28, 33 and 56-59 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Kotani US 5,766,751 and US 5,969,029. This rejection is most in view of the cancellation of claims 1 and 28, and amendment of the other rejected claims so that they depend from allowed claims.

Amendments

All of the rejected claims are cancelled or amended so that they depend from allowed claims. In addition, the allowable claims are amended so that they are in independent form. Applicants submit that these amendments place the application in condition for allowance and, therefore, should be entered after final Action.

Claims 1 and 28 have been cancelled.

Claim 4 has been amended to depend from allowed claimed 51.

Claims 29 and 30 have been amended so that they are in independent form.

Claim 56 is amended to depend on claim 41.

Claim 57 is amended so that it is directed to preparing a laminate as claimed in allowed claim 41. Claim 58 is amended accordingly.

Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

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In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested. Should any matters be unresolved by this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed direct dial number in order to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: November 14, 2006